



Violence Against Women Education Project

ANNUAL REPORT

October 1, 2005–September 30, 2006



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN
& THE COURTS

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Administrative Office of the Courts

February 2007

ABOUT THIS PROJECT

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Attention: Violence Against Women Education Project (VAWEP)

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Project Mission

The mission of the Violence Against Women Education Project is to enhance the court's response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues through the following activities:

- Identify primary educational and informational needs of the courts on domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues;
- Initiate new judicial branch educational programming pertaining to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking, including the delivery of regional training events and enhancing existing programming;
- Develop and compile useful information for the courts on domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues that relates specifically to California law;
- Institutionalize inclusion of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues in all relevant judicial branch education curricula, programs, and publications;
- Create incentives designed to increase attendance and participation in judicial branch education relating to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking;
- Increase communication among courts about best practices in domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases;
- Provide jurisdiction-specific technical assistance on domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues of the greatest importance to local courts; and
- Create educational tools that aid in the administration of justice for self-represented litigants in domestic violence cases.

Education in Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking Cases: A Critical Need

Many of California’s judicial officers, whether they hear criminal cases, civil proceedings, juvenile dependency cases alleging violence, or family law cases involving contested divorce and custody arrangements, are at some point likely to encounter issues related to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. These types of cases differ from others in that they appear in a variety of court contexts and departments. Judges in any assignment can benefit from a working knowledge of the unique issues that these cases pose, while judicial officers presiding over specialized courts (such as criminal domestic violence or Domestic Violence Prevention Act courts) need continuing, relevant, and advanced information and resources.

Other court professionals play a critical role in ensuring access to the courts for the parties in these cases. From the counter clerk who may be the first representative of the court system to assist a victim of domestic violence to the bailiff in the courtroom who performs crucial safety functions to the document examiner who ensures that legal requirements are met—all work together to help administer these cases. Each court professional needs essential job-related information: an understanding of the law and procedure underlying these cases, a grounding in the basic principles of public service and safety, and information about how to reduce the stress of functioning in this difficult area.

Thus, ongoing and pertinent education for judicial officers and other judicial branch professionals is critically important to the fair and efficient administration of justice in these important cases. The Violence Against Women Education Project (VAWEP) is an initiative designed to meet this need. VAWEP is a project of the Administrative Office of the Courts, (AOC) Center for Families, Children & the Courts (CFCC). VAWEP provides to the courts information, educational materials, and training on the role of the courts in responding to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases in family, civil, criminal, and juvenile courts in California. VAWEP also assists local courts in developing education, policy, and promising practices. VAWEP continually assesses the greatest information and training needs of the courts and designs programs responsive to those needs.

FUNDING INFORMATION

This was the fourth year of the VAWEP initiative. The project is funded by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) with resources from the federal Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) STOP (Services • Training • Officers • Prosecutors) grant program. (See the appendix for a description of the STOP purpose areas.)

Each state is required to allocate 5 percent of its annual STOP grant funding to support the courts in creating a more effective response to domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking cases. To this end, VAWEP received \$512,573 (for the period from October 2005 through September 2006) in funding from OVW and OES that allowed the Administrative Office of the Courts to continue and enhance its efforts to educate and inform judicial officers and court staff about domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking issues.

Review of VAWEP Activities: October 1, 2005–September 30, 2006

In an effort to meet the project's goals and comply with the program purpose areas set forth by the Office on Violence Against Women, VAWEP staff and planning committee members undertook activities in three major areas: the delivery of educational events; the distribution of technical assistance to local trial courts and regions; and the development of teaching materials, resources, and publications. A brief summary of each of these activities is provided in the following pages.

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Since the project's inception, more than 5,645 individuals have participated in VAWEP-sponsored training events and forums. VAWEP participants are primarily judges, commissioners, referees, and court staff. Some programs also involve justice system partners such as attorneys, mental health providers, law enforcement, and advocates. A description of the VAWEP educational events held during this grant year follows.

Continuing Judicial Studies Programs (CJSP) (October 2005, January and August 2006)

Six courses were offered as part of the Continuing Judicial Studies Program series. A faculty development course was offered during Summer CJSP for judicial officers who serve or are interested in serving as faculty for judicial educational courses related to domestic violence or sexual assault.

Domestic Violence in Family Law

The October 2005 and January 2006 CJSP events included a basic one-week course for judges and commissioners new to a family law assignment. Eighteen judicial officers attended the October program and 25 attended the January program. Both weeklong courses contained significant components relating to domestic violence, including segments on the effects of domestic violence on children, differential assessment of domestic violence, outcomes for children exposed to domestic violence, and the co-occurrence and interrelationship of substance abuse with domestic violence. Following is a sample of comments received:

All instructors were great, with helpful tips for judging.

Overall [the] course was great, with [Judge] Jim Mize offering good practical advice.

Everything was great. All new material to me. I appreciate the beautiful presentation.

The written material, the dialogue among the participants, the suggestions offered by the presenters [were most helpful.]

Domestic Violence Criminal Cases

The January CJSP event included a daylong course addressing the handling of domestic violence misdemeanor cases from arraignment through sentencing, including the issuance of criminal protective orders. Thirty-five judicial officers attended the course. The course received positive comments as seen in this sample:

Learning [the] nuances of domestic violence cases and learning some obscure items regarding misdemeanor domestic violence cases [was the most beneficial part of this course].

Very good [presentation] on [the] technical details of protective orders and certain recurrent trial problems to expect in particular domestic violence cases.

I [have a] better understanding of protective orders and evidentiary issues that come up. Excellent [and] practical advice [provided].

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault cases require the judge to be familiar with a unique body of substantive and procedural law that is not necessarily applicable in other criminal cases. The judge must be aware of and understand the dynamics of sexual assault cases, the needs of the victim and specially mandated accommodations, and myths and misconceptions about sexual assault victims and offenders. This two-and-a-half day course, offered during Summer CJSP, emphasized these key issues and guided the judges through managing a sexual assault trial from arraignment through sentencing and postsentencing procedures. Thirty-five judicial officers attended the course, which received positive feedback with an overall average of 4.9 out of a possible 5.0. A sampling of the comments follows:

This is a great class—probably the best I’ve taken through CJER. Judge Couzens, Judge Clarke, and Dr. Nelson should be strongly commended.

The entire course was outstanding! This was the best course I have taken in many years. [The information was] extremely useful and practical on the complex area of sentencing, arraignment, court orders, etc.

I have a better understanding of how to do things and some practical alternatives.

Domestic Violence and Immigration

The August 2006 CJSP event also featured a daylong course on domestic violence and immigration issues. Thirteen judicial officers attended the program and received a broad overview of the elements of immigration law that may affect decisionmaking in these cases. The course emphasized gaining an understanding of the challenges facing victims of domestic violence as a result of immigration concerns and the immigration status of the parties. Here is a sampling of comments received:

The [different] types of offenses which will impact immigration [cases was helpful]. A week does not go by where I do not hear “This will impact my client’s immigration status.” This course was a great start for me to learn more about this subject.

I will definitely think about immigration status. Also, I plan on learning what is done/practiced in my jurisdiction. I am in charge of the domestic violence calendar and immigration is definitely a serious issue.

Rarely do I say this: I have no suggestions for improvement. The [instructors] did a great job as a team. Judge Ellsworth's practice of wandering around and making comments from different areas of the room was great.

I would like to see this class provided on a regional basis to all family law bench officers. This is too good not to share.

Faculty Development Course

This two-and-a-half day faculty development course, offered during Summer CJSP, was attended by 11 judicial officers who have served or are interested in serving as faculty for judicial education courses related to domestic violence and sexual assault. The course provided information on the theory and principles of adult learning using the Kolb Learning Style Inventory. This course was well received by the participants and received the highest evaluation possible. Every participant who submitted an evaluation gave the course the highest rating. A sample of the positive comments follows:

Emphasizing fairness issues [was] extremely important. The instructors were all excellent.

[I] learned [how] to structure [and deliver] a course.

Terrific, experienced instructors.

Domestic Violence Judicial Institute (March 2006)

This judicial education program is based on a national interdisciplinary curriculum developed by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges and the Family Violence Prevention Fund. The three-day program included workshops on fact-finding, fairness, and cultural issues in domestic violence cases, decisionmaking skills and enforcement, victim behavior, and perpetrator behavior. The program also included sessions designed to engage judicial officers in practical courtroom exercises addressing the complexity of domestic violence cases as well as specific issues facing California judicial officers. In response to comments received from previous institutes, a nuts-and-bolts elective preinstitute course on California law preceded the

institute. The institute and preinstitute course received excellent evaluations. The evaluations of both programs included the following comments from participants:

I felt all faculty members were very good in all areas. I appreciate their commitment to the subject matter and their participation in educating us. The interaction during the institute with faculty and students was beneficial and again appreciated. The willingness to share information and best practices is valuable.

[The speaker had] excellent knowledge of [the] subject. [The instructor was] enthusiastic about [her] work in this area.

Excellent speaker—broad base of knowledge. Great communicator.

Demystifying the orders that we are required to issue [was the most beneficial part of this course].

Great job! Good presentation on things, great to learn new things.

We've heard that this is a good group of judges. I would have to say that this is the best judicial education experience I've had so far.

Judicial Institutes (March, April, and May 2006)

Judicial Institutes target specific judicial audiences, either judges from rural areas or judges assigned to hear specific case types, such as family, juvenile, or criminal law. The project sponsored programs at the Criminal Law Institute in March, at the Family and Juvenile Law Institutes in April (also known as Spring Education Week), and at the Cow County Judges Institute in May.

Criminal Law Institute

Two courses were offered during the Criminal Law Institute held in Los Angeles in March 2006—Criminal Domestic Violence and Stalking Cases and Court Security. The criminal domestic violence courses, attended by 28 judicial officers, provided information on handling a criminal domestic violence case from arraignment through supervision of probation. The course included issues such as protective orders, and complex evidentiary problems that often arise when victims are either absent or recanting.

The course on Stalking and Court Security identified stalking behavior, dynamics, and typologies and included a discussion on case management techniques. Additional issues of focus included threat and violence assessment, cyberstalking, stalking law, firearms and court orders in stalking cases, and evidentiary issues in stalking cases. Thirty judicial officers attended this course.¹

Family Law Institute

This institute offered two domestic violence–related course specifically targeting family law judges and commissioners. The course entitled Domestic Violence Cases in Your Court—Developing Best Practices was a plenary session attended by 116 judicial officers. This course focused on discussing some of the identified challenges in administering domestic violence cases. Faculty engaged participants in developing suggestions on relevant practices for consideration. A sampling of the comments received includes:

Learning about best practices in various courts [and] learning more about judicial obligations [were most helpful]. Highlighting of potential problems [was useful].

[Will] go back [to court] and communicate information learned to staff and others.

The second course, Ethics, Domestic Violence, and the Role of the Family Law Judge in the Community, was attended by 72 judicial officers. Family law judges and commissioners who hear domestic violence cases are expected and encouraged to engage in community activities and outreach within the limits of the law and ethics standards. The faculty engaged participants in discussing ethical issues in the context of domestic violence cases using a series of hypothetical exercises. The exercises highlighted, for example, legislative activities, educational activities, and membership in domestic violence councils. Participants noted the following comments on their evaluation forms:

Excellent program. Presenters were great!

Great job. Good audience interaction. A lot of good feedback.

Both instructors were very strong and interesting to listen to.

¹ The AOC implemented a new procedure to allow program participants to submit evaluations online after the program. Very few evaluations were received and, as a result, no comments on these workshops are available. That procedure is no longer used by the project.

Juvenile Law Institute

This institute offered a plenary session focusing on the effects of domestic violence on female juveniles and maternal adults. The course included a screening of *Girl Trouble*, a documentary on the effects of domestic violence on six female juveniles. After the screening, two judicial officers, representatives from the San Francisco Girls Justice Initiative, and two females profiled in the documentary conducted a panel discussion. The program was very well received and the evaluations were positive. A sampling includes:

Meeting Lateefah Simon and Shangra Rogers [from the documentary was the most beneficial part of this course].

Learning about what real people think and feel about going through the process [was the most beneficial part of this course].

I think I may be in a better position to help parents and young girls.

Very valuable to [feature] participants who have been through [the] juvenile system. [This course] should be included in every institute.

This was an incredible presentation. Very powerful.

Cow County Judges Institute

The Cow County Judges Institute provides an opportunity to present courses to rural judges in an environment that allows for discussion of substantive and procedural law and their unique features in a rural setting. A course on criminal domestic violence was presented to this group, and it provided judicial officers with information on how to handle a criminal domestic violence case from arraignment through supervision on probation. The course also covered pretrial issues such as protective orders, witness body attachment, and complex evidentiary problems that often arise when victims are either absent or recanting. Finally the course provided information on mandatory sentencing provisions and how they may affect proposed plea dispositions. Participants offered the following comments about the course:

Charts with information on mandatory probation conditions and statutes with firearms prohibitions upon conviction were very helpful. [It was] of assistance to learn that criminal protective orders must be terminated when [the] defendant is sent to prison.

The written materials and the presentation were both excellent.

[I will] be more mindful of nuances and issues created by applicable statutes and case law.

Invitational Court Forums (April and June 2006)

The project sponsored two invitational court forums to learn more about court practices in the areas of firearms relinquishment protocols and entry of and access to restraining orders in the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System (DVROS).

Firearms Relinquishment Colloquium

When a firearm is kept in a home where an abuser resides, nearly two-thirds of victims report that it is used by the abuser to scare, threaten, or harm them. Public safety is best served when law enforcement and the entire justice system take immediate action to remove firearms from a person who is statutorily barred from possessing it. The firearms colloquium held on April 17 brought together members from the VAWEF planning committee, law enforcement, trial court invitees, and the Department of Justice to discuss current rules and procedures relating to firearms relinquishment and to identify areas for improvement. Thirty-two attendees participated in the colloquium.

Court Forum on Access to CLETS

Courts are required to transmit criminal protective orders and Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA) orders to a local law enforcement agency or directly enter the orders into the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System (DVROS) within one business day. Only a few courts have direct entry access to DVROS via the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS). This system is monitored by the Department of Justice (DOJ). On June 21, the project hosted a court forum to provide an opportunity for courts with access to CLETS to demonstrate their individual operations and to explain their obstacles, challenges, and achievements during the process of obtaining DOJ approval for direct entry access. Other program participants included law enforcement, representatives from DOJ, and judicial officers and staff from selected trial courts. This event attracted 42 participants.

B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California (June 2006)

Courses on domestic violence awareness and criminal sexual assault were delivered as part of the B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California, a nationally recognized program providing comprehensive education to all new superior court judges, commissioners, and referees. The courses provided information related to domestic violence awareness and the criminal court's response to sexual assault cases.

The instructors for the Domestic Violence Awareness course presented five major issues of significance in these cases that every judge, regardless of assignment, should know. These crucial topics ranged from the unique aspects of the role of the judge to technical provisions relating to firearms restrictions. Practical and detailed ideas, suggestions, and best practices were shared to help new judges deal with the thorny, complex, and stressful issues that judges frequently face in these cases. One hundred sixteen judicial officers attended this mandatory course and submitted positive evaluations and feedback that included the following remarks:

[An] excellent combination of criminal and family law. Loved [the] enthusiasm of [the] faculty, their warm relationship, and passion for [the] topic.

[The] information about domestic violence in criminal cases and [the] intersection of criminal, juvenile, and family courts in domestic violence cases [was the most beneficial part of this course].

[The] exposure to material previously unfamiliar to me [was the most beneficial part of this course].

Seventy-nine judicial officers attended the Decisionmaking in Sexual Assault Cases course. This course examined issues unique to trials involving sex crimes. Topics included juror selection, experts, selected evidentiary statutes, and statutes and procedures for victim protection. A sampling of comments received from evaluations regarding this course follows:

Both instructors are dynamic and entertaining. Thanks for the great class!

Knowledge of instructions and the handout materials [were the most beneficial part of this course].

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND LOCAL TRAINING

Technical assistance and local training are provided through the Domestic Violence Safety Partnership (DVSP) project (October 2005–September 2006). The DVSP project was developed to enhance safety and to improve practices and protocols in the handling of domestic violence cases by offering advice, hands-on technical assistance, a speakers bureau/peer mentoring, and local education and training. Trial courts participate in the program by filling out the DVSP self-assessment tool. This tool consists of legal mandates and other safety considerations relating to domestic violence cases and in particular the handling of restraining orders. The assessment helps courts identify areas in which technical assistance or training may be most beneficial. The AOC then provides educational opportunities or technical assistance at the court's request. Participation in the self-assessment is voluntary and is not a prerequisite to obtaining assistance under this program, although courts are strongly encouraged to complete the process, and those that do will be given priority. Those courts that have completed the assessment have found it useful in identifying areas where training and technical assistance is needed.

Fourteen instances of assistance were provided to the trial courts and AOC departments or regional offices. A list of the programs provided under DVSP follows:

Family Dispute Resolution Statewide Educational (FDR) Institute

The FDR Institute is an annual statewide event for family court mediators and family law judicial officers. One day of the program is specifically designed to allow mediators and judicial officers to jointly attend workshops. Four domestic violence–related workshops were held: Parenting When Domestic Violence Is an Issue; Spectrum of Violence; Domestic Violence in a Digital Age: From Radio Scanners to Spyware, Part 1; and Domestic Violence in a Digital Age: Don't Let Data Endanger Victims, Part 2. These collaborative workshops enable family law judicial officers and mediators to effectively handle issues of domestic violence and improve services to the parties.

Institute for New Court Professionals

This program was a one-week AOC-sponsored training for new court staff in the family dispute resolution field. The following three workshops were funded through this project: Legal Framework: History, Rules, and Codes; Working With Parents of Young Children Who Have Witnessed Domestic Violence: Effects of DV Exposure and Changes in the Parenting Environment; and Domestic Violence and Cultural/Immigration Issues. Forty participants registered for the course.

Assigned Judges Program Conference

The Chief Justice assigns retired judges and justices to serve temporarily in local courts to cover vacancies, illnesses, and disqualifications, and to help alleviate calendar congestion in the courts. The Assigned Judges Program held its first

Assigned Judges Program Conference during the grant year and requested assistance in planning a plenary session on restraining orders. Judge Becky L. Dugan from the Superior Court of Riverside County presented and the *Judge's Guide to Domestic Violence Cases* was distributed. More than 300 retired judges attended the conference.

Superior Court of Alameda County

This project provided funding for an interdisciplinary training: Filling the Gaps: Servicing Young Children Exposed to Domestic Violence. The training focused on identifying the need for increased awareness and training regarding the impact of family violence on children. The court, county agencies, and community service agencies are striving to improve collaboration and their ability to work together in mitigating this impact for families seeking assistance from the court. More than 115 participants attended the program.

Superior Court of Contra Costa County

Nationally prominent faculty presented at the court's four-hour mandatory training for family law mediators and evaluators and a two-hour training session for court staff. The four-hour training included a discussion on intimate partner violence, risk assessment and implications for women's safety, and an update on legal mandates. The court staff training included a basic background on domestic violence issues and the dynamics involved with victims who do not leave their abusers. Twenty participants attended the training for mediators and evaluators, and 24 participants attended the staff training.

Superior Court of Los Angeles County

When divorcing families have domestic violence findings, crafting a parenting plan that keeps the victim and children safe is a challenge to mediators and custody evaluators. This training provided extensive knowledge of victim-based services, the dynamics of domestic violence, the effects of domestic violence on children, and the impact of domestic violence on the victims. The training also provided information on batterers' intervention services, research on effectiveness and recidivism rates, and the quality of court-ordered batterer treatment programs. Ninety participants attended the program.

Superior Court of Orange County

The court sponsored a day of education as a follow-up to a training program held in 2005 and to further support the court's implementation of criminal domestic violence courts. The Domestic Violence Specialty Training focused on the effects of family violence on children and infants, batterer intervention programs, shelter services, a personal empowerment program, and a session on the court and community working together. Dr. Linda Chamberlain, a nationally recognized expert specializing in childhood exposure to violence and the implications for brain development, served as

faculty. The training was attended by 62 participants including judges, clerks, and bailiffs.

Superior Court of Riverside County

The project provided funding to the court to develop manuals for presentations and for use at staff training events. The training manuals focused on protective orders, firearms, and full faith and credit. The protective order training was delivered to court clerical staff, family and juvenile attorneys, and law enforcement. The firearms and full faith and credit training was presented to district attorneys and public defenders. Three hundred copies of the manual were produced.

Superior Court of San Bernardino County

The court requested technical assistance from AOC staff attorneys experienced in domestic violence issues to conduct a training session on the scope and role of mediators working with families in which domestic violence may be an issue. Upon completion of the DVSP self-assessment tool, the court identified gaps in the implementation requirements for California Rules of Court, rule 5.215. This rule sets forth protocols for family court services' handling of domestic violence cases consistent with the requirements of Family Code section 3170(b), such as providing information on domestic violence to families, allowing separate mediation sessions when a history of domestic violence has been established, and referring family members to appropriate services. The AOC attorneys developed a checklist for mediators to assist them in compliance with the directives and mandates of the rule. Twenty-nine evaluations were received from this program.

Superior Court of Santa Clara County

The court sponsored a judicial officer training focusing on the role of the duty judge from arrest to the emergency protective order (EPO), how to handle a criminal domestic violence assignment, common errors in restraining order proceedings, and firearms relinquishment requirements and compliance. Judges Becky L. Dugan, Superior Court of Riverside County, and Mary Ann Grilli, Superior Court of Santa Clara County, served as copresenters. Thirty-four judicial officers attended this daylong training.

Superior Court of Siskiyou County

The project funded an interdisciplinary domestic violence summit. The one-day collaborative event featured nationally recognized guest speaker Lt. Mark Wynn (Ret.), Nashville Metropolitan Police Department, and included a presentation on restraining orders and workshops on supervised visitation and appointed counsel for children. Approximately 141 participants attended the summit.

Superior Court of Stanislaus County

The court sponsored training for judicial officers that focused on the issuance of restraining orders. The training program, offered during the lunch break, provided an opportunity for most judges to attend without affecting their calendars. Judge Catherine D. Purcell from the Superior Court of Kern County presented. Thirteen evaluations were received from this program.

Superior Court of Ventura County

As a follow-up to a meeting held in 2005, the court requested technical assistance for an AOC domestic violence staff attorney to facilitate a countywide meeting to discuss the results of the court's self-assessment and to assess the court's progress. This meeting produced positive outcomes and improved communication between the court and its justice partners. For example, prior to the meeting, the court's practice was to send restraining orders to law enforcement for entry into DVROS during a shift change, thus causing a delay in entry. The meeting provided an opportunity for the court and law enforcement to discuss the issue and reach a mutually acceptable procedure for ensuring prompt entry of orders.

Superior Court of Yolo County

The project purchased a personal computer and related equipment for the court to access the Domestic Violence Restraining Order System (DVROS) and other databases housed in the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS).

PUBLICATIONS

California Benchbook on the Adjudication of Sex Crimes (September 2006)

VAWEP initiated development of a new practical benchbook for judges on sexual assault cases, and a draft was developed during the 2004–2005 grant year. During this grant year, the benchbook was finalized and distributed to all judicial officers. It provides the California judiciary with a comprehensive guide to sexual assault cases in one volume. The benchbook is unique in this field nationally and is a significant addition to the available judicial tools in this subject area. The benchbook not only explains the legal issues related to sexual assault but also assists judicial officers in making effective and appropriate orders and decisions in these cases. The benchbook is especially helpful because the law in this area is particularly complex and judicial officers have noted a need for more information. The progression of chapters in the benchbook adheres to the chronology of a sexual assault case: Management of Sex Crime Cases, Warrants, Arraignment, Media Relations, Discovery, Statutes of Limitation, Protection of the Victim, Preliminary Hearing, Trial, DNA Evidence, Child Witnesses, Sentencing, and Sexually Violent Predators.

Annual Report and Fact Sheet

VAWEP has developed a project annual report and a basic project fact sheet that highlight key accomplishments and activities and that supply details about the project, its faculty, and its staff. These documents are available on the California Courts Web site: www.courtinfo.ca.gov. The project will also mail the documents to all judicial officers in California.

GOALS FOR FUTURE FUNDING CYCLES

In anticipation of funding for future grant cycles, VAWEF has set the following goals for the 2006–2007 project year (subject to approval and available funding):

- Convene three meetings of the project's advisory committee;
- Present three courses at the Continuing Judicial Studies Program on issues of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Conduct two workshops on domestic violence and sexual assault, given at the B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California;
- Develop and disseminate a project fact sheet and an annual report;
- Convene three regional domestic violence and the courts meetings in conjunction with the work of the Domestic Violence Practice and Procedure Task Force;
- Convene two training workshops for rural judges on selected issues of domestic violence and sexual assault;
- Convene four to six workshops on domestic violence, sexual assault, and best practices, at the statewide conference for judicial officers;
- Update, publish, distribute, and post online practical guides for judges that address topics of protective orders, immigration and domestic violence, full faith and credit and firearms, stalking, and sexual assault;
- Provide for a speakers bureau or targeted local technical assistance to allow courts to receive information about topics most pertinent to them related to domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
- Develop online training programs for judicial officers and court staff; and
- Produce an online newsletter on domestic violence issues for judicial officers and court staff.

VAWEF staff will continue to assess the greatest training, educational, and technical assistance needs of the California judiciary so that judicial officers can optimally address the complex issues of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking that currently face the courts.

VAWEP FACULTY

Judicial officers, researchers, and others have served as faculty for various VAWEP events. The project is extremely grateful to these individuals for sharing their expertise with others in an effort to educate judicial officers, court staff, and professionals in other disciplines about issues of domestic and sexual violence. The following is a comprehensive list of all those who assisted the project from October 2005 through September 2006.

Continuing Judicial Studies Programs (CJSP)—Domestic Violence Criminal Cases; Effects of Domestic Violence on Children, Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Immigration; and Faculty Development Courses (October 2005, January and August 2006)

Hon. Jeffery S. Bostwick
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. Susan M. Breall
Judge, Superior Court of San Francisco County

Hon. Norma Castellanos-Perez
Commissioner, Superior Court of Tulare County

Hon. George W. Clarke
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. J. Richard Couzens (Ret.)
Judge, Superior Court of Placer County

Hon. Anita H. Dymant
Judge, Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Dr. Mary Duryee
Clinical Psychologist, Oakland

Hon. Sherrill A. Ellsworth
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Dr. Joan Kelly
Psychologist, Corte Madera

Hon. James M. Mize
Judge, Superior Court of Sacramento County

Dr. Sidney Nelson
Licensed Psychologist, Scripps Psychological
Associates, Inc., Sacramento

Ms. Leslye E. Orloff
Associate Vice President and Director,
Immigrant Women Program Legal Momentum,
Washington, D.C.

Mr. Michael Roosevelt
Senior Court Services Analyst,
Center for Families, Children & The Courts,
Administrative Office of the Courts

Hon. Arnold D. Rosenfield
Judge, Superior Court of Sonoma County

Ms. Kathleen Sikora
Consultant and Attorney
Education Division/CJER,
Administrative Office of the Courts

Domestic Violence Judicial Institute: Enhancing Judicial Skills in Domestic Violence Cases (March 2006)

Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack
Judge, Superior Court of Sacramento County

Hon. Sharon A. Chatman
Judge, Superior Court of Santa Clara County

Hon. Judith Crandall Clark
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. Becky Lynn Dugan
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. Sherrill A. Ellsworth
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. Irwin Joseph
Commissioner, Superior Court of Santa Cruz
County

Hon. David Andrew Gottlieb
Judge, Superior Court of Fresno County

Dr. Peter Jaffe
Professor, Faculty of Education, Centre for
Research on Violence Against Women and
Children, University of Western Ontario

Hon. Michele D. Levine
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. Lowell Richards
Commissioner, Superior Court of Contra Costa
County

Hon. John Michael McCoy
Commissioner, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. James M. Mize
Judge, Superior Court of Sacramento County

Hon. Harvey A. Silberman
Commissioner, Superior Court of Los Angeles

Hon. David Sotelo
Judge, Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Ms. Shaun M. Wardinsky
Attorney at Law, Portland, Oregon

Dr. Sujata Warriar
Director, Health Care Bureau, New York State
Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence

JUDICIAL INSTITUTES

Criminal Law Institute—Domestic Violence and Stalking Courses (March 2006)

Hon. James R. Brandlin
Judge, Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Hon. Susan Finlay (Ret.)
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. Scott M. Gordon
Commissioner, Superior Court of Los Angeles
County

Mr. Robert Martin
Executive Vice President, Gavin de Becker &
Associates

Dr. Kris Mohandie
Psychologist, Pasadena

Family Law Judges Institute—Domestic Violence Courses (April 2006)

Hon. Jerilyn L. Borack
Judge, Superior Court of Sacramento County

Hon. Jeffrey S. Bostwick
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. Sherrill A. Ellsworth
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Hon. Mary Ann Grilli
Judge, Superior Court of Santa Clara County

Hon. Laurence D. Kay (Ret.)
Justice, Court of Appeal, First Appellate District

Juvenile Law Judges Institute—Girl Trouble (The Impact of Domestic Violence on Female Juvenile and Adult Maternal Victims) (April 2006)

Ms. Julia Posadas Guzman
Director of Program and Policy, Girls Justice Initiative, San Francisco

Hon. Patrick J. Mahoney
Judge, Superior Court of San Francisco County

Ms. Gena Castro Rodriguez
Director, Girls Justice Initiative, San Francisco

Ms. Shangra Rogers
Panelist, Oakland

Ms. Lateefah Simon
Office of District Attorney Kamala Harris, San Francisco

Hon. Richard Vlavianos
Judge, Superior Court of San Joaquin County

Cow County Judges Institute—Criminal Domestic Violence (May 2006)

Hon. Anita H. Dymant
Judge, Superior Court of Los Angeles County

B. E. Witkin Judicial College of California—Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Courses (June 2006)

Hon. Jeffrey S. Bostwick
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. James P. Cloninger
Judge, Superior Court of Ventura County

Hon. Susan P. Finlay (Ret.)
Judge, Superior Court of San Diego County

Hon. Rebecca S. Riley
Judge, Superior Court of Ventura County

Domestic Violence Safety Partnership (DVSP) Project (October 2005–September 2006)

Ms. Tamara Abrams
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Founding Director, Alaska Family Violence
Prevention Project

Ms. Emberly Cross
Coordinating Attorney, Cooperative Restraining
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Hon. Becky Lynn Dugan
Judge, Superior Court of Riverside County

Ms. Alyce LaViolette
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Hon. Jane York (Ret.)
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The Adjudication of Sex Crimes

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Hon. J. Richard Couzens (Ret.)
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APPENDIX

STOP GRANT PURPOSE AREAS

STOP formula grants are intended for use by states; state, local, and tribal courts; Indian tribal governments; units of local government; and nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services programs. Grants supported through this program must fall into one or more statutory program purpose areas. The purpose areas most closely related to this project are:

- Training law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors to more effectively identify and respond to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
- Developing, training, or expanding units of law enforcement officers, judges, other court personnel, and prosecutors specifically targeting violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening victim services programs, including sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence programs; developing or improving delivery of victim services to underserved populations; providing specialized domestic violence court advocates in courts where a significant number of protection orders are granted; and increasing reporting and reducing attrition rates for cases involving violent crimes against women, including crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
- Developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs addressing stalking.
- Supporting formal and informal statewide, multidisciplinary efforts, to the extent not supported by state funds, to coordinate the response of state law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, courts, victim service agencies, and other state agencies and departments to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, and dating violence.
- Providing assistance to victims of sexual assault and domestic violence in immigration matters.

